

NEBRASKA WEATHER & CROPS

Run 2250

10/21/85



For week ending 10/20/85

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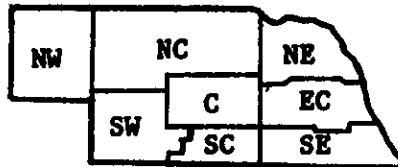
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WEATHER

There was very little precipitation over the Panhandle and along the northern portions, but amounts averaged from a half inch to one and one-half inches along the southern portions. Temperatures averaged near one degree above normals.

GENERAL

Row crop harvesting in Nebraska continued its on again, off again pattern last week with most progress being made Tuesday and Wednesday. Producers concentrated mainly on soybeans and grain sorghum with slight progress being made on corn. In the Panhandle, where little or no rain fell, farmers were busy harvesting dry beans and sugar beets. Wet conditions have strung out dry bean harvest resulting in some field losses and possible reduction in quality. With a few more good drying days, harvest should be nearly completed by mid-week. Sugar beet harvest was nearly 50% complete by the end of the week with sugar content running below average. Other activities included seeding wheat, moving grain, cleaning and repairing old storage facilities and some new grain storage construction. The number of days suitable for fieldwork averaged 4.1.

Topsoil moisture supplies were 2% short, 49% adequate and 49% surplus. Subsoil moisture supplies were 9% short, 65% adequate and 26% surplus. A year ago, topsoil moisture supplies were 3% short, 47% adequate and 50% surplus. Subsoil supplies rated 28% short, 64% adequate and 8% surplus.

CROPS

Winter wheat condition rated 7% poor, 30% fair, 48% good and 15% excellent. Seeding, running two weeks behind normal, neared completion at 97%, compared to 100% last year and average. Emergence reached 85%, compared to 96% last year and 95% average.

Corn harvested moved ahead slowly to 20% complete, behind 25% last year and 45% average. Although wet field conditions have been ideal for stalk rot, reported lodging problems have been minimal. Moisture levels on corn remain high, with drying necessary on most harvested grain.

Soybean harvest progressed to 20%, behind 30% last year and 60% average. Reported quality of soybeans has been variable with some frost damage surfacing. Moisture levels on soybeans were acceptable for harvesting, but many eastern fields remain too muddy for combining.

Sorghum harvest also reached 20%, behind 30% last year and 45% average.

LIVESTOCK

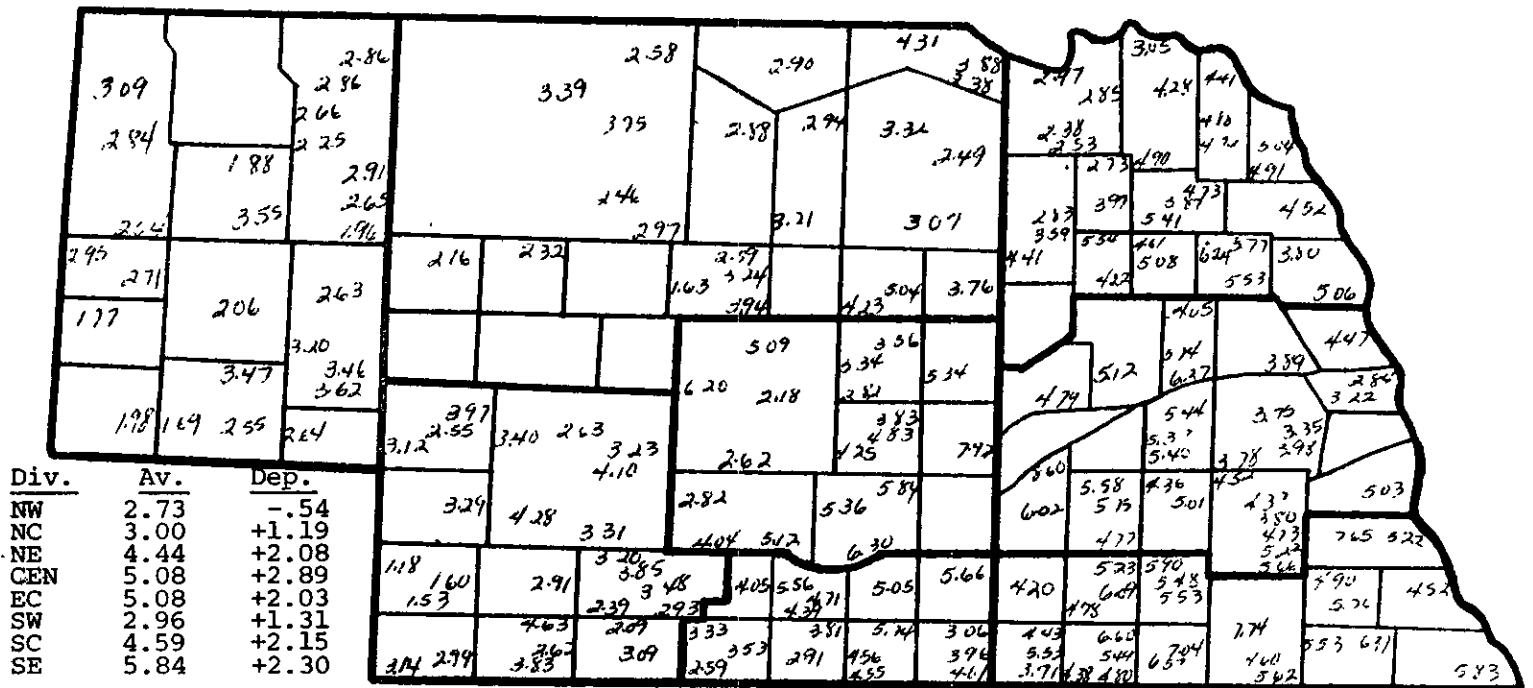
Pasture and range feed supplies rated mostly adequate. Grasses and fall meadows continued to show improvement. Some producers were selling calves and culling cows earlier than normal. Ranchers were busy working cattle and weaning calves. Cattle continued to be moved to stalks as harvest progressed.

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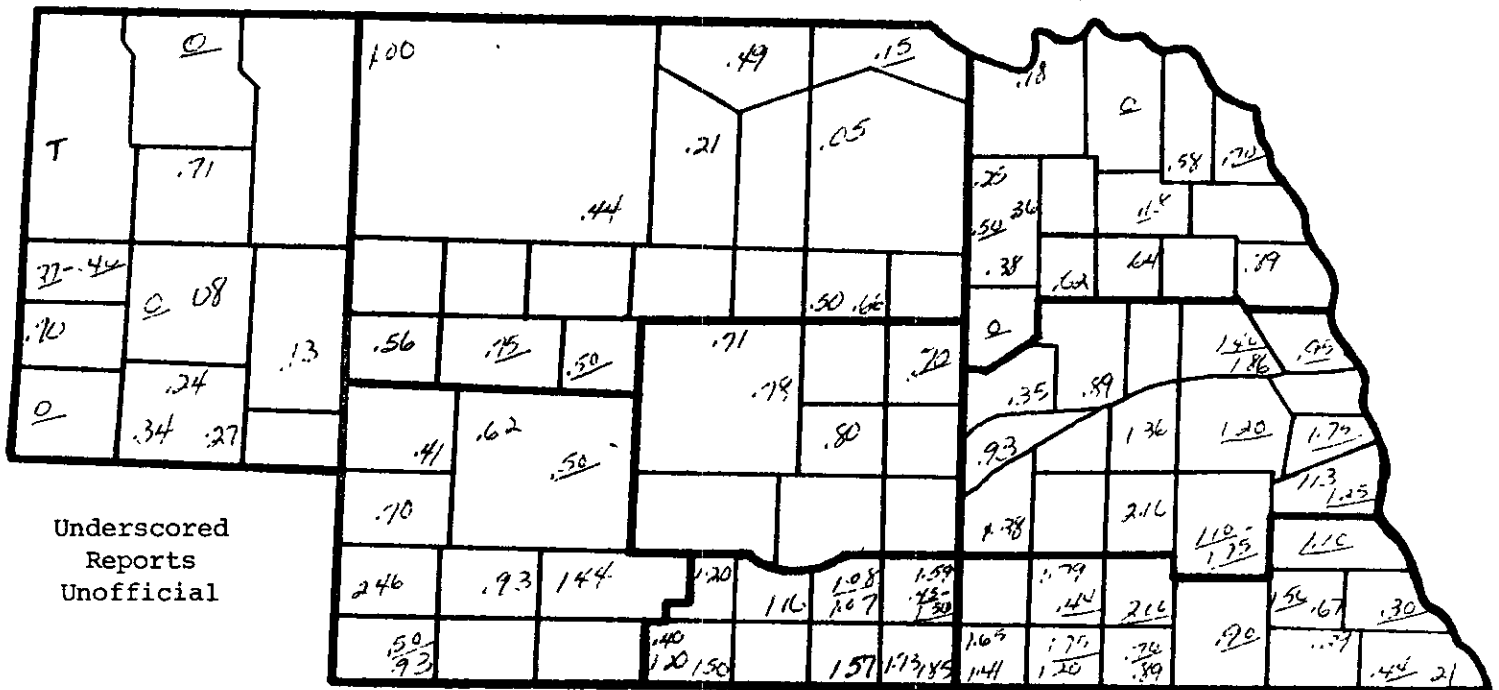
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PRECIPITATION MAP FOR MONTH OF SEPTEMBER 1985 1/



1/ Courtesy of the Center for Agricultural Meteorology and Climatology, Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources, The University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING FRIDAY, OCTOBER 18, 1985



TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA FOR WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 20, 1985

Station		Temperature				Precipitation
		Extremes		Mean	Departure	Total Inches <u>1</u> / <u></u>
		Max	Min			
NW	Chadron	76	26	51	--	0
	Scottsbluff	75	27	49	-1	0
	Sidney	74	28	48	--	0
NC	Ord	75	33	54	--	0
	Valentine	79	28	51	+2	0
NE	Norfolk	78	34	54	+2	.18
	Sioux City	70	34	53	+1	.46
CEN	Grand Island	78	35	54	+1	1.29
EC	Lincoln	77	33	55	-1	.94
	Omaha	75	38	55	+1	1.17
SW	Imperial	77	33	51	--	--
	North Platte	77	30	50	0	.42

1/ Precipitation totals not included in map above.